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Doc 14

ROME 25281

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DE RUEHRO #5281 3131649  
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F 091649Z NOV 82  
FM AMEMBASSY ROME  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 2806  
INFO RUESBA/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 0973  
RUEHOC/AMCCNSUL MILAN 0511  
RUEPMN/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO 0196  
BT

09 NOV 82  
TCR: 1757  
CN: 07850  
CHRG: PRQG

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DEPARTMENT FOR S/IL (J. WARNOCK), EUR/P (T.J. CLEAR)  
AND ARA/RPF (D. POVENMIRE)

DEFT ALSO PASS U.S. DEPT OF LABOR (ILAB)

E.C. 12356:N/A  
TAGS: ELAB, PEPR, SHUM, IT, AR, UY  
SUBJECT: VISITING URUGUAYAN TRADE UNIONISTS ON THE  
"DESAPARECIDOS" QUESTION

REF: ROME 24892 (NOTAL)

1. WITH THE ITALIAN PRESS FULL OF STORIES AND  
ACCUSATIONS DURING THE PAST WEEK ABOUT THE FATE OF  
SEVERAL HUNDRED ITALIAN CITIZENS NUMBERED AMONG THE  
MISSING IN ARGENTINA'S COUNTERTERRORIST "DIRTY WAR"  
OF THE LATE 1970S (REFTEL), A VISITING URUGUAYAN TRADE  
UNION DELEGATION HAS QUIETLY NOTED THAT URUGUAY TOO  
HAS ITS SHARE OF ITALIAN "DESAPARECIDOS." THE GROUP,  
LED BY JUAN ANGEL TOLEDO, IS IN ITALY AT THE INVITATION  
OF THE CGIL-CISL-UIL UNITED FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS  
AND HAS VISITED TURIN, MILAN AND ROME.

2. AT A NOVEMBER 6 PRESS CONFERENCE IN MILAN THE VISITING  
UNIONISTS DECLARED THAT -- ACCORDING TO INFORMATION  
GARNERED FROM RELATIVES OF THE VICTIMS -- 134 URUGUAYANS  
OR RESIDENTS, INCLUDING AN UNSPECIFIED NUMBER OF ITALIAN  
ORIGIN, HAVE "DISAPPEARED" AS A RESULT OF "TOTALITARIAN  
PERSECUTION" SINCE 1974. THE URUGUAYAN UNIONISTS NOTED  
THAT 126 OF THESE INDIVIDUALS WERE "ARRESTED" ON  
ARGENTINE TERRITORY. COMMENT. IT IS NOT CLEAR, ON THE  
FACE OF THESE ACCUSATIONS, WHETHER PRIMARY BLAME FOR  
THE DISAPPEARANCES SHOULD LIE WITH ARGENTINE OR  
URUGUAYAN AUTHORITIES. END COMMENT.

3. COINCIDING WITH THE URUGUAYAN LABOR DELEGATION'S  
VISIT TO MILAN, THE LOMBARDY REGIONAL FEDERATION  
OF THE FLM UNITARY METALWORKERS UNION HAS PETITIONED  
THE MONTEVIDEO GOVERNMENT TO RELEASE AN ELDERLY  
TRADE UNIONIST OF ITALIAN ORIGIN, ROSARIO PETRARROIA,  
WHO HAS BEEN IMPRISONED SINCE 1976. FLM IS PREPARED  
TO PAY PETRARROIA'S AIRFARE TO MILAN FOR MEDICAL

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)  
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS  
Margaret P. Griefeld, Director  
☒ Release ☐ Excise ☐ Deny  
Exemption(s):  
☒ In Part ☒ In Full ☐ Declassify on  
( ) Classify as ( ) Extend as ( ) Downgrade to  
Date Declassify on Reason

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